

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1747 without my signature.

The Rumsey Band of Wintun Indians is a leader among California's sovereign tribes. Their willingness to partner with the state and local governments to solve problems, protect the environment and work cooperatively with Yolo County and various public entities in the area is commendable. They are a valued and respected Tribe and member of the Yolo County community. I am encouraged by their continued willingness to work with state and local governments on so many important issues.

But allowing a tribal government that is not subject to all of the federal, state and local laws that protect the public, to participate in the exercise of public power, particularly off reservation lands, diminishes public accountability and control. This bill also presents significant policy questions regarding the proper role of a tribal sovereign when their partnership with a local government can lead to the taking of property for public purposes through eminent domain.

The simple fact is that the sovereign tribes can work cooperatively with their local governments through agreements and memorandums of understanding as contemplated in the tribal-state compacts my administration has executed.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger